

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN & BURGESSES OF THE BOROUGH OF GLASTONBURY.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT FOR 1945.

Mrs. Bath & Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report for the year 1945. This is an interim report as instructed by Circular 28/46 and abbreviated in accordance with the directions of Circular 2067.

V I T A L S T A T I S T I C S.

POPULATION:- Registrar General's Estimate: 4,613

<u>LIVE BIRTHS</u>	{		M.	F.	Total	} Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population:- 20.16
		Legitimate	48	31	79	
		Illegitimate	6	4	10	
			54	35	89	
<u>STILL BIRTHS</u>	{					
		Legitimate	0	4	4	
		Illegitimate	0	0	0	
			0	4	4	

<u>DEATHS:-</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population: 10.40</u>
	16	32	48	

Rates for England & Wales per 1,000 population:-

BIRTH RATE: 16.56

DEATH RATE: 11.4

DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES.....	0
DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE.....	4
{ Rate per 1,000 Live Births: 44.94 }	
{ Rate for England & Wales }	
{ per 1,000 Live Births: 46.00 }	

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS):-

Disease	Total cases notified	Cases admitted to Isolation Hospital	Total deaths
Small Pox.....	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever.....	6	4	0
Diphtheria.....	0	0	0
Enteric Fever (including Para- Typhoid).	0	0	0
Measles.....	81	0	0
Whooping Cough.....	2	2	0
Puerperal Pyrexia.....	0	0	0
Ophthalmia Neonatorum.....	0	0	0
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis.....	0	0	0
Dysentery.....	0	0	0
Malaria.....	0	0	0
Pneumonia.....	0	0	0
Acute Poliomyelitis.....	0	0	0
Encephalitis Lethargica.....	0	0	0
Other diseases notifiable locally: Erysipelas.....	2	0	0

TUBERCULOSIS:-

	<u>NEW CASES</u>				<u>DEATHS</u>			
	<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>		<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Year 1945 - all ages	2	1	0	0	0	0	1	0

	<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>		<u>TOTALS</u>	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Total cases of Tuberculosis on the Register at end of 1944.....	7	8	1	4	8	12
Total cases of Tuberculosis on the Register at end of 1945.....	10	7	1	4	11	11

WATER SUPPLY.

Practically the whole of the dwelling houses in the Borough are supplied from the public mains, the figures being as follows:-

Laid on direct to houses.....	1,232
Water fetched from stand-pipe.....	3
	<u>1,235</u>

Houses (including isolated farms) with only a private well supply.....	13
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Total dwellings in Borough	<u>1,248</u>
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Sufficiency. The supply is constant and no shortage was experienced during the year.

Quality. The main supply is hard. Galvanised-iron service pipes are used and no difficulty is experienced due to plumbo-solvent action.

The supply from the main source (low level system) is Chlorinated by a permanent plant (Chloramine process). A temporary chlorinating apparatus has been installed on the High Level supply and this is to be replaced with a permanent plant (Chloramine process) in due course. A small separate supply has now been abandoned so that, with the exception of about 12 houses supplied from another small source, the whole of the houses on the public mains now receive a Chlorinated supply.

Samples of the water, as supplied to the consumer, are taken at frequent intervals for Bacteriological examination and the results are satisfactory.

HOUSING.

At the outbreak of the war between 50 and 60 houses were known to your Sanitary Inspector and myself to be in such a state as to need inspection by us with a view to recommending demolition where this was necessary and, in my opinion, on the standards then in force, nearly all of these houses would have been considered unfit for habitation.

During the past 6 years the condition of these houses has deteriorated further and I have no doubt that, on the complete survey of housing conditions in the Borough, which must be made, more houses will be added to this list.

It must be realised that, in an old town like Glastonbury, there is a number of houses, which appear from the outside to be structurally sound and well-built, but where conditions as regards dampness, drainage, lack of ventilation and light are such as to render them unhealthy, particularly for children.

It is, however, useless to present a programme of demolition until new houses can be provided for the persons displaced, as well as for new households and overcrowded families.

Considerable opposition was made to the Council's application for the confirmation of a Compulsory Purchase Order in respect of the site chosen for Post-War Housing and a Public Inquiry was held on October 9th, 1945 by the Ministry of Health who subsequently confirmed the Order, and this site is sufficient for the erection of about 250 houses.

POST-WAR DEVELOPMENT.

Consulting Engineers have been engaged by the Council to report on Water Supply and Sewerage appertaining to post-war housing and post-war development generally and proposals include:-

WATER SUPPLY. (1) The re-laying of the stoneware main at West Compton, (2) Works to render the Edgarley Reservoir water-tight, (3) The installation of a Booster Plant on the trunk main from West Compton, (4) The sinking of a new Bore-hole, (5) A scheme, with new reservoir, for supplying the higher parts of the town and (6) The installation of a permanent Chlorinating Plant on the existing high level system at Wellhouse.

SEWERAGE. (1) The provision of new Sewage Disposal Works at Sharpham Park, (2) The re-laying of a section of main sewer in Benedict Street to prevent flooding and (3) Sewers in connection with post-war housing.

I am,
Your obedient servant,

T.H.A. PINNIGER

Medical Officer of Health.

